

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
WORK SESSION MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

Vice President Johnson convened the work session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:04 p.m. in the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School (PWHS) Library Multipurpose Room on September 15, 2008.

Board Members Present: Tom Davis, Gary Johnson, Susan Moore, Dr. William Ryan, Hope Luken, and Mitch Zimmer.

Board Members Absent: Marc Orlow, Dr. Pascal Scoles, Steven Slutsky.

Also Attending: Dr. Vincent F. Cotter, Superintendent; Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Assistant Superintendent; Joseph P. Bickleman, Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer; Cassandra DeLong, Director of Pupil Services; Andrew Boegly, Chief Information Officer; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; Richard Hartz, Director of Human Resources; John Quinn, Director of CITV and David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary.

Mr. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the Board had met in executive session on August 27, September 10 and September 15.

Minutes: Mr. Johnson stated that the Board will take action Thursday on the minutes of the Board Work Session of August 18; the General Meeting of August 21; the Special Meeting of August 27; the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee, the Human Resources Committee, the Community Relations and Student Life Committee and the Safety and Wellness Committee of September 4. See enclosures #1 through #6. He noted that minutes of the Curriculum Committee of September 15 will be available on Thursday. Dr. Cotter added that members had a white page before them of minutes from the Finance committee of September 9.

Financial Reports: Mr. Johnson asked Board members to review the financial reports on the list for approval on Thursday evening. They include the Bond Fund Report, the Capital Projects Report, the General Fund/Federal Program Bills, the Capital Reserve Fund, the Food Service Bills/Cafeteria Report, the Outstanding Investment Report, the Cash Flow Summary, the Comparison of Taxes Collected, the Real Estate Tax Escrow Report, the Reconciliation of Cash Accounts, the Budgetary/Deficit Status Report and the Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 31, as shown in enclosures #7 through #17.

Staff Report: None

Old Business: None

Correspondence: Mr. Johnson stated that the Board will take action Thursday on a request from Denise Marks, Principal of Conshohocken Elementary School, to approve a donation in the form of a digital camera and memory card to the Conshohocken Elementary School. See enclosure #20. The equipment is being donated by a District parent.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Cotter led Board members through his report which includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List, the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List and an Enrollment Report. See enclosures #21 through #23. He stated that the Personnel Report and Substitute list includes eight transactions including one resignation, five replacements, one additional need and one revised assignment. The Extra Duty/Extra Pay List has three appointments and two resignations and the Enrollment Report shows average class sizes ranging from 16 to 23 students.

New Business: Mr. Johnson noted that the administration is seeking Board approval of a resolution authorizing the refinancing of the 2002 A and 2003 Bond Series. He stated that members have the resolution and supporting materials in front of them as a separate attachment. Mr. Bickleman noted that the District was advised it could save between \$90,000 and \$100,000 by refinancing the debt. Dr. Cotter asked the Board to act on the resolution at this meeting.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Lukens seconded a motion to approve the resolution authoring the bond refinancing. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 6-0.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act at this meeting on a request by Dr. Gorodetezer to adopt a Television Production text utilized by Colonial Instructional Television. See enclosure #25.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the textbook adoption. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 6-0.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Board will consider four special education placements on Thursday. He also noted that the Board will take action Thursday on three special education contracts for the 2008-09 school year. The contracts are with Perkins School for the Blind at an annual cost of \$247,766.50, Horsham Quaker School at a yearly rate of \$26,880 and Elwyn Davidson-West Chester Connections at a cost of \$254.64 per day.

Dr. Cotter requested Board action on a letter of agreement for nursing services. He noted that members had details before them as a separate attachment. The agreement with the Delta-T Group is for substitute nurses. The rates are \$42 per hour for LPNs and \$52 per hour for RNs.

Dr. Ryan moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the letter of agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 6-0.

Mr. Johnson stated that PWHS Principal Dr. Monica Sullivan is requesting approval for three teachers to attend the Career Counseling, Science and Technology Education Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio from October 22 to October 25. Costs for the conference are provided through grant funds.

Mr. Johnson noted that the Board will act Thursday on a request by Tonia Kaufman for the PWHS Marching Colonials to participate in the Bands of America Regional Competition at Towson University from Friday, October 17 through Sunday, October 19. While students are responsible for the cost of participation, the parent band boosters are using season fundraising monies to help defer costs.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: Legislative: Dr. Ryan referenced House Bill 1067 which provides several amendments to the school code regarding further provisions for background checks on employees, the transfer of student records between private and public schools, and the establishment of the Virtual High School Study Commission. He also reported on Act 32 of 2008 that consolidates tax collection procedures in each county.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary